**John 13 – The Servant**

Lifegroup Study (PM) – 8 July 2018

**INTRODUCTION**

In everything he did and said, Jesus revealed the Father. So, in displaying humility and sacrificial love, he showed us that the Lord God Almighty is humble in nature and has the heart of a servant.

**KEY SCRIPTURES**

**READ John 13:1-17**

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

**2**And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray Him, **3**Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, **4**rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. **5**After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. **6**Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, “Lord, are You washing my feet?”

**7**Jesus answered and said to him, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this.”

**8**Peter said to Him, “You shall never wash my feet!”

Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.”

**9**Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!”

**10**Jesus said to him, “He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.” **11**For He knew who would betray Him; therefore, He said, “You are not all clean.”

**12**So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? **13**You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. **14**If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. **15**For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. **16**Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. **17**If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

**KEY POINTS FROM SERMON**

***Note for leaders:*** *Allow the text to speak for itself and use these points to focus the conversation or clarify anything that comes up from the discussion questions. You do not need to retell the sermon using these points.*

* In the beginning of John’s gospel, Jesus is identified as the Word of God. He is everything the Father has ever wanted to communicate and display.
* Jesus knew where he had come from and who he was and that all power had been given to him. But his response was to wash his disciples feet in an act of humility and sacrificial love.
* We are already clean (sanctified, set apart) through our association with Jesus. But our feet get dirty through walking in a sinful world. We need the Lord to remind us of and reveal in us his righteousness.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. If you heard the sermon, was there anything God spoke to you about personally from this message?
2. Within this passage, what insights into God’s character do you find?
3. What does this passage teach us about God's purposes for His people?
4. How does the image of God kneeling to wash the feet of humanity challenge you?
5. Jesus said we would be blessed (happy) if we follow his example and serve others. How have you experienced joy in serving?
6. **James 1:22** says “*Don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves*.” Is there anything that God is asking you to stop, start or continue in this passage? What is the next step you need to take in response to God’s word? (i.e. obedience)

**PRAYER POINTS**

* For us to grow in humility and sacrificial love like Jesus
* For us to develop a servant hearts heart and behaviour
* For God to fill us with his joy as we serve Him